

**RECENT ACQUISITIONS CELEBRATED IN DRAWINGS EXHIBITION AT MoMA QNS**

Works by Jasper Johns, Ellsworth Kelly, Jim Nutt, Chris Ofili, and Gerhard Richter Join Key Historical Works in Examination of Pencil Drawings from the Collection

Pencil: Drawings from the Collection

September 18, 2003–March 8, 2004

MoMA QNS, Long Island City, Queens

NEW YORK, September 2003—Two new acquisitions of drawings by Jasper Johns and Ellsworth Kelly join other recent acquisitions and key historical works from MoMA's collection in the exhibition ***Pencil: Drawings from the Collection***, on view at MoMA QNS from September 18, 2003, through March 8, 2004. *Wild Grape* (1960) by Ellsworth Kelly and *Nothing at All Richard Dadd* (1992) by Jasper Johns are shown alongside 26 highlights from the hundreds of pencil drawings in MoMA's collection. In addition to the works by Johns and Kelly, other recently acquired contemporary drawings by Jim Nutt, Chris Ofili, and Gerhard Richter are shown, as are historic works by such artists as Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso, Gustav Klimt, Paul Cézanne, Joseph Beuys, and Claes Oldenburg. One such drawing is *Anna Peter* (1926–27), a portrait by George Grosz that was acquired in 1929—one of the first works to enter the Museum's collection. This exhibition examines the tradition of pencil drawing through a full range of styles and subjects—figuration and abstraction, portraiture and landscape, and naturalism and cartoon-like renderings. The capability of pencil to achieve a range of effects from fine to muscular line, stippled point to expansive field, and outline to shaded plane, is also explored. The exhibition is organized by Gary Garrels, Chief Curator, Department of Drawings, and Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture.

"Pencil is the simplest and most basic of materials for art, yet artists achieved some of their most evocative and haunting, beautiful and powerful works using only pencil. The achievements of artists over the last 100 years are immediate and fresh through this most modest of mediums," states Mr. Garrels.

About the Curator

Gary Garrels is the Chief Curator, Department of Drawings, and Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture. Before joining MoMA in May 2000, Garrels served as the Elise S. Haas Chief Curator and Curator of Painting and Sculpture at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art from 1993 to 2000; Senior Curator at the Walker Art Center from 1991 to 1993; and the Director of Programs at the Dia Center for the Arts in New York from 1987 to 1991. Since his appointment

at MoMA, Garrels has helped to acquire many key drawings for the collection, including *Woman* (1965) by Willem de Kooning. At MoMA Garrels organized *New to the Modern: Recent Acquisitions from the Department of Drawings* (2001) and is currently the organizing curator at MoMA for *Roth Time: A Dieter Roth Retrospective*, to open jointly at MoMA QNS and P.S. 1 in March 2004.

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